

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00090 151832Z

45

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 113780

O 151755Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7288

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

JCS IMMEDIATE

CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

CINCEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCLANTFLT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T LIBREVILLE 0090

EXDIS -- MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINR, GB

SUBJ: U.S. NAVAL SURVEILLANCE FLIGHTS

REF: STATE 009038

1. DESPITE FACT HE IS ALREADY FEELING SOMEWHAT EXPOSED AS
RESULT HIS STRONG SUPPORT OF FNLA/UNITA IN ANGOLA, BELIEVE
PRESIDENT BONGO WOULD BE SYMPATHETIC TO USG REQUEST FOR OPERATING
RIGHTS FOR PATROL AIRCRAFT ALONG LINES OUTLINED REFTTEL.
HE WOULD PRESUMABLY EXPECT QUID PRO QUO IN FORM
STRENGTHENED USG COMMITMENT TO MEET HIS PERCEIVED SECURITY NEEDS,
AS HE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CONSIDER THAT HIGHLY VISIBLE COLLABORATION
WITH USG IN SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITY INCREASES THREAT TO GABON FOR
WHICH US ASSISTANCE ALREADY SOUGHT.

2. MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK TO MOUNTING OPERATION FROM GABON LIKELY
BE LOGISTICAL. QUICK SURVEY COVERING FOUR OF FIVE POSSIBLE FUEL
SOURCES SHOWS ONLY ENOUGH JP-5 TO COVER 250,000 POUND DAILY
SHUTTLE REQUIREMENT FOR MAXIMUM OF ONE WEEK. OVER TWO-WEEK PERIOD,
MAXIMUM AVAILABILITY ESTIMATED AT 120,000 POUNDS DAILY, WHILE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 LIBREV 00090 151832Z

AVAILABLE QUANTITY WOULD BE ONLY ABOUT 80,000 POUNDS DAILY IF

ONE-MONTH DURATION ANTICIPATED FOR OPERATION.

3. BERTHING FOR SUPPORT GROUP ALSO LIKELY POSE PROBLEM, AS LOCAL HOTELS PERMANENTLY FILLED. BERTHING MIGHT BE MADE AVAILABLE BY FRENCH ARMY UNIT BASED NEAR AIRPORT, BUT ONLY ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO SET UP TENT CAMP.

4. WE WOULD NOT ANTICIPATE ANY DIFFICULTY OBTAINING PASSPORT/VISA WAIVER OR BLANKET AUTHORIZATION FOR FLIGHTS IF AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE GIVEN BY GOG.

5. IN LIGHT LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS ANTICIPATED PARAS 2 AND 3, SUGGEST DEPARTMENT MAY WISH ALSO CONSIDER ABIDJAN AS POSSIBLE STAGING POINT FOR SURVEILLANCE OPERATIONS. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL ABIDJAN OFFERED BEST FUEL AVAILABILITY AT TIME OF LUANDA EVACUATION AIRLIFT, AND IN ADDITION HAS BEST HOTEL FACILITIES IN WEST AFRICA. STEIGMAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BATTLESHIPS, SURVEILLANCE, FLIGHT CLEARANCES, NAVAL CAPABILITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cahillha
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LIBREV00090
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760015-0901
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760155/aaaabwgk.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 9038
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cahillha
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2004 by cahillha>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. NAVAL SURVEILLANCE FLIGHTS
TAGS: PINR, GB, UR, (BONGO, ALBERT BERNARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006